

REMARKS

Please cancel Claims 4, 6, 15-16, 22, 24, 34, and 36 without prejudice. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-14, 17-21, 23, 25-33, 35, and 37-42 of the present application remain pending. Claims 1, 5, 13, 17, 19, 23, 31, and 35 are amended herein. No new matter is added as a result of the Claim amendments.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowable subject matter of Claims 11, 12, 29, 30, 41, and 42. The Applicants further wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that Claims 4, 6-10, 16-18, 22, 24-28, 34, and 36-40 would be allowable if re-written to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

CLAIM REJECTIONS 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)

Claims 1-3, 19-21, and 31-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Lawman, (U.S. Patent No. 6,049,222), hereinafter referred to as "Lawman." The Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed embodiments of the present invention are not anticipated by Lawman. Claim 1 of the present invention has been amended to include the limitations recited in Claim 4 which was

indicated to recite allowable subject matter if re-written in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 now recites:

A method of configuring a communication port for communication with a device, comprising the steps of:

providing a memory module having communication port configuration data that is associated with the device stored thereon, said communication port configuration data comprising a baud rate and a format for arranging data bits, stop bits, and parity bits in a serial transmission;

associating the memory module with the communication port;
and

configuring the communication port based on the communication port configuration data stored on the memory module.

Claims 19 and 31 recite similar claim limitations. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 1, 19 and 31 overcome the teaching of Lawman and that the rejections of Claims 1, 19, and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) are overcome.

Claims 2 and 3 depend from Claim 1 and recite additional claim limitations descriptive of embodiments of the present invention. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) are also overcome.

Claims 20 and 21 depend from Claim 19 and recite additional claim limitations descriptive of embodiments of the present invention. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) are also overcome.

Claims 32 and 33 depend from Claim 31 and recite additional claim limitations descriptive of embodiments of the present invention. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 32 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) are also overcome.

Claims 5, 23, and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Dunlop et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,721,872), hereinafter referred to as "Dunlop." The Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed embodiments of the present invention are not anticipated by Dunlop. Claim 5 of the present invention has been amended to include the limitations recited in Claim 6 which was indicated to recite allowable subject matter if re-written in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 5 now recites:

A method of controlling a first device by a second device via communication with a network translation device, comprising the steps of:
determining at the network translation device if the first device has functionality that is controllable via a first protocol;
notifying the second device via the first protocol that the first device has functionality that is controllable via the first protocol if the first device has functionality that is controllable via the first protocol;

sending first device functionality information from the network translation device to the second device via the first protocol if the first device has functionality that is controllable via the first protocol; and
receiving a request via the first protocol from the second device for first device functionality information at the network translation device.

Claims 23 and 35 recite similar claim limitations. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 5, 23 and 35 overcome the teaching of Dunlop and that the rejections of Claims 5, 23 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) are overcome.

Claims 7-10 depend from independent Claim 5 and recite additional claim limitations descriptive of embodiments of the present invention. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) are also overcome.

Claims 25-28 depend from independent Claim 23 and recite additional claim limitations descriptive of embodiments of the present invention. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 25-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) are also overcome.

Claims 37-40 depend from independent Claim 35 and recite additional claim limitations descriptive of embodiments of the present invention. Accordingly, the

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 37-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) are also overcome.

CLAIM REJECTIONS 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lawman in view of Dunlop. The Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed embodiments of the present invention are not rendered obvious by Lawman alone or in combination with Dunlop. Claim 13 of the present invention has been amended to include the limitations recited in Claim 16 which was indicated to recite allowable subject matter if re-written in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 13 now recites:

A network translation device, comprising:
a communication port;
a memory module associated with the communication port and having communication port configuration data stored thereon, and wherein said communication port configuration data is associated with functionality provide by a first device; and
a processor that is communicatively coupled to the memory module, wherein said processor configures the communication port based on the communication port configuration data stored on the memory module and sends at least one message containing the data associated with functionality provided by the first device to a second device.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the Claim limitations recited in Claim 13 are neither taught nor suggested by Lawman alone, or in combination with Dunlop.

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is overcome.

Claims 14 and 17-18 depend from independent Claim 13 and recite additional claim limitations descriptive of embodiments of the present invention. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 14 and 17-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are also overcome.

CONCLUSION

Based on the arguments presented above, the Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-3, 5, 7-14, 17-21, 23, 25-33, 35, and 37-42 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, the Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these Claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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